use for wheat crop during the last three years and so far, during the current year;

(b) the impact of such a decline on wheat production; and

(c) whether Government are taking/have taken measures to ensure that wheat production does not fall, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN M1SHRA): (a) The area under non-food crops has been increasing over the years. As regards area under wheat cultivation, it has also increased during the last three years from 24.59 million hectares in 1992-93 to 25.70 million hectares in 1994-95. However, the area under wheat has somewhat declined to 25.12 million hectares in 1995-96.

(b) It is tentatively estimated that there has been a decline of about l.S million tonnes in wheat production on account of less area reported under wheat in 1995-96 as compared to 1994-95.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of wheat, the Government is implementing an Integrated Cereal Development Programme in What Based Cropping System Areas (lCDP-Wheat) with cropping system approach. Besides, the Government has increased substantially the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat to Rs. 415 per quintal for the 1996-97 crop, which represents an increase of Rs. 35/- per quintal (i.e. 9.2%) over the MSP of wheat fixed for 1995-96 crop.

Integrated Afforstation and Economic Development Projects in North-East Region

868. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of centrally- sponsored integrated afforestation and economic development projects being implemented in the North-East region as on date, with State-wise details;

(b) the number of projects implemented by the State Governments and the NGOs, State-wise; and

(c) the area covered by forests in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The number of projects being implemented in the North-East region under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development projects as on date is as follow.

(i)	Assam	—	i
(ii)	Arunachal Pradesh	—	2
(iii)	Manipur	—	2
(iv)	Meghalaya	—	1
(v)	Mizoram	—	1
(vi)	Nagaland	—	1
(vii)	Tripura	—	1

These are being implemented by state forest departments/district Rural Dcvelopmem Agencies.

(c) The area covered by forests in North-East region is 164359 sq. kms. as per the State of Forest Report 1995.

Doubling of Mungalori'-Shoranur railway line

869. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take up doubling of the Mangalore-Shoranur Railway line in Kerala;

(b) if so, the extent of work done and the amount spent so far;

(c) the target for completion of this project: and

(d) the details of the difficulties faced by Railways in implementing the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir, the work has already been taken up.

(b) Earthwork and bridges are in progress between Mangalore and Calicut. Three critical block sections will be completed and opened

in this financial year. Rs. 2.5 crs. has been spent upto, 31.3.96 and Rs. 37.01 crs has been provided in 96-97 budget.

(c) The present target for completion of this work is 31.3.99.

(d) There are no difficulties. The work is being progressed to suit the target.

Compartments in Narsapur Express for Visakhapatnam

870. SHRIYERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide compartments in Narsapur Express for Visakhapatnam in South Central Railways;

(b) whether it is proposed to have Visakhapatnam bound compartments linked to the Ratnachal Express;

(c) the steps proposed to have a rail travelling facility to Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh after 7.00 p.m.; and

(d) the measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) At present there is no proposal to introduce slip coaches between Hyderabad/Secunderabad and Visakhapatnam by Hyderabad-Narsapur Express/Ratnachal Express. However, 7055/7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express provides connection to 7245/ 7246 Ratnachal Express at Vijayawada This arrangement provides travelling facility from Hyderabad, after 1900 hrs. (7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express leaves Hyderabad and Secunderabad at 2130 and 2200 hrs. respectively), to Visakhapatnam with a changeover at Vijayawada.

(d) Does not arise.

Harassment of passengers by RPF

871. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding harassment of railway passengers by the Railway Protection Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the erring persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (c) During the year 1995-96, a total of 24 complaints have been received regarding harassment of the railway passengers by the RPF personnnel. Out of them, 14 complaints were found false. In the remaining 10 complaints, 19 RPF personnel were found to have been involved. Out of the 19 RPF staff, 4 have been taken up for trial in the courts of law, 3 have been dismissed from service, 7 have been punished departmentally and the remaining 5 have been taken up under DAR Rules.

Newsitem regarding Kendriya Vidyalayas

872. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to stale:,.

(a) whether Government's attention has since been drawn towards a newsitem captioned "Kendriya Vidyalaya ke star men girawat ka mamla cooper tak pahuncha" that appeared in the 8th November, 1996 issue of 'Jansatta'; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The pass result of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Classes X and XII are better than that of C.B.S.E. overall results. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has implemented 37 recommendations of the Selja Committee. Action has already been initiated to implement the ramaining twelve recommendations.

औद्योगिक प्रदूषण पर नियंत्रण पाने के लिए कनाडा से सहायता

873. श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कनाडा के किसी अभिकरण ने भारतीय उद्योगों में प्रदूषण नियंत्रण के लिए वित्तीय एवं तकनीकी सहायता देने का प्रस्ताव किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;